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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2800**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor : Kevin I. Bertness Appln. No.: 10/804,773 Filed : March 18, 2004 For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR COUNTERACTING SELF DISCHARGE IN A STORAGE BATTERY Docket No.: C382.12-0190		Group Art Unit: 2838 Examiner: Rajnikant B. Patel
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RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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20th DAY OF MARCH, 2006


PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 18, 2006. In the Office Action, all pending claims 1-18, 23-41, 46-64, 69-77 and 82-111 were rejected. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

In section 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 4-5 under §102(b) as being anticipated Kellett et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,637,978. In section 4 of the Office Action, claims 2-3, 6-18 and 82-94 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kellett et al. in combination with Barrett (U.S. Patent # 5,684,678). In section 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 23, 36-41, 46-51, 69 and 72-77 and 95-111 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tomantschger, U.S. Patent No. 5,194,799 in combination with a paper published by Electronix Express, November 10, 1998 and further in combination with